5th August 1932]

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"There have been no such cases."

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—"Is the Government aware of the fact that this propaganda, instead of putting down the Movement, will be an incentive to it?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I do not think so."

Alleged beating of toddy shop picketers in Kambakone village.

* 122 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on or about the 28th April 1932 four picketers peacefully picketed a toddy shop in Kambakone village near Baindur in South Kanara;

(b) whether it is a fact that the police and the sub-inspector belaboured the picketers severely with lathis and the picketers fell senseless;

(c) whether it is a fact that water was sprinkled on them and given them to drink;

(d) whether after they became conscious they were again beaten by the police;

(e) whether when they were so belaboured again the fisherwomen who had gathered unable to bear the sight cried out for help; and whether the people, that had gathered, beat the police with cadjan sticks to save the boys from being killed; and

(f) whether the four picketers were given any medical assistance; if so, into which hospital they were admitted and whether the hon. the Home Member would be pleased to place a copy of a statement of the medical officer that treated them regarding the number and the nature of the wounds?

A.—(a) The hon. Member apparently has in mind an incident at the Uppunda toddy shop in Nandavana near Byndoor of Coondapoor taluk on 27th April. On that day 4 Brahman youths and 4 fisher youths picketed the shop in company with a small crowd. They were not only exhorting the public not to drink, but were restraining customers from entering the shop.

(b) The facts are reported to be as follows:—

The Sub-Inspector warned the volunteers and the crowd that they formed an unlawful assembly and repeatedly ordered them to disperse. The volunteers refused to move. The Sub-Inspector pushed two of the volunteers away and gave them a few cuts with his cane on the legs. They sat down and feigned inability to stand. The constables did not beat anybody.

(c) Some water was by order of the Sub-Inspector sprinkled on the heads of the seated volunteers for the purpose of making them get up.

(d) No.

(e) The crowd of fisher-folk increased to about 100 strong and suddenly grew excited. They armed themselves with cadjan sticks, surrounded the Police and set upon them from behind. The volunteers also got up and joined in the attack. The Sub-Inspector was pushed for a distance of a furlong and beaten on the head and back. When the constables used their lathis, they were also snatched away and the constables were repeatedly struck.

(f) From the fact that the volunteers received only a few cuts about the legs and then got up and joined in the assault on the Police it does not appear that they required any medical attention. The Government have no information that they were admitted to any hospital. The District Magistrate himself visited the place and made personal enquiries.

Alleged severe beating of Attluri Jayaramaya of Vanapamula in Bezwada.

* 123 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in May 1932 the Police beat Mr. Attluri Jayaramaya of Vanapamula in Bezwada and that his ribs were broken on account of the severity of the lathi blows given by the Police; and

(b) if so, under what circumstances was the said beating given and where, and whether the Police gave him medical assistance after the beating; if so, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement showing the number and nature of the injuries received by him and the remarks of the medical officer who attended regarding the same?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information of any such occurrence. If it had occurred it was open to the person injured to complain to the District Magistrate.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"Yes, Sir."

Prisons and Prisoners

Health of the Civil Disobedience Prisoners.

*124 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state monthwar for 1932 for each jail the number of deaths and of cases of illness among the Civil Disobedience prisoners?

A.—The Government have no information.